



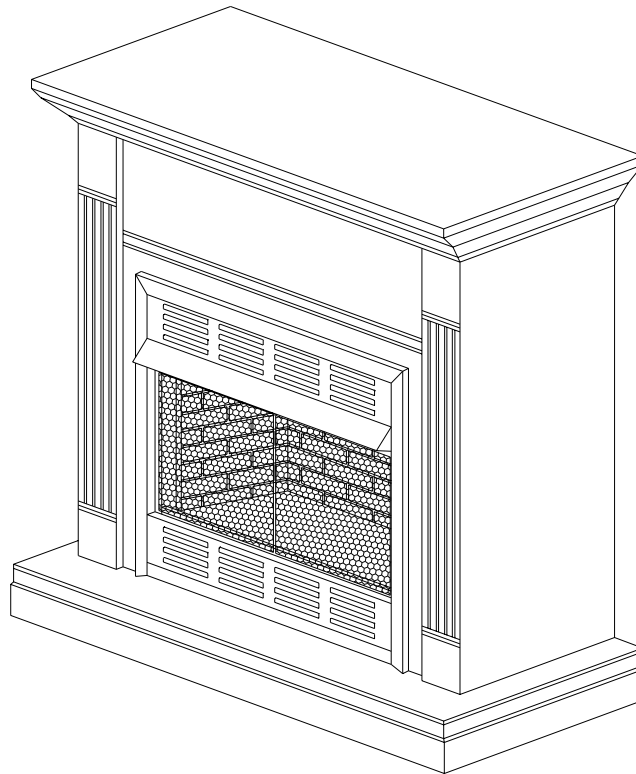
# United States Stove Company

## Vent-Free Zero-Clearance Universal Firebox

Model VFZC36 and Model VFZC42

**Certified for use with any Unvented Log Set tested to ANSI Z21.11.2**

This Firebox may also be installed in manufactured (mobile) homes, where not prohibited by state or local codes.



Shown with optional cabinet mantel, hearth base, brass trim, louvered grills, and firebrick panels.

## OWNER'S OPERATION AND INSTALLATION MANUAL

**FOR USE ONLY  
WITH DECORATIVE TYPE  
UNVENTED ROOM HEATERS**

**DO NOT BUILD A WOOD FIRE**

Save this manual for future  
reference.

Carefully review the instructions supplied with the decorative type unvented room heater for the minimum fireplace size requirement.

**DO NOT INSTALL THE APPLIANCE IN  
THIS FIREBOX, UNLESS THIS FIREBOX  
MEETS THE MINIMUM DIMENSIONS REQUIRED  
FOR THE INSTALLATION.**

**WARNING:** If the information in this manual is not followed exactly, a fire or explosion may result causing property damage, personal injury or loss of life.

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## PRODUCT FEATURES

### Operation

These fireboxes are approved for installation with any certified vent-free gas log heater up to 40,000 BTU's. They require no outside venting or chimney making installation easy and inexpensive. When used without the optional blower (model VFZCB), the firebox requires no electricity making it ideal for emergency backup heat.

## LOCAL CODES

Installation must conform with local codes or, in the absence of local codes, with the National Fuel Gas Code, ANSI Z223.1. When using the optional Blower Kit, this firebox must be electrically grounded in accordance with local codes or, in the absence of local codes, with the National Electrical Code, ANSI/NFPA 70.

\*Available from:

American National Standards Institute, Inc.  
1430 Broadway  
New York, NY 10018

National Fire Protection Association, Inc.  
Batterymarch Park  
Quincy, MA 02269

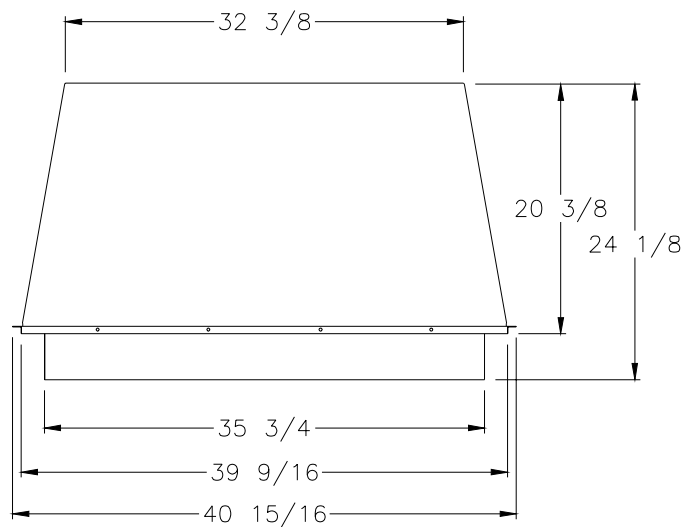
## WARNINGS/SAFETY INFORMATION

**IMPORTANT:** Read this owner's manual carefully and completely before trying to assemble, operate, or service this firebox. Improper use of this firebox can cause serious injury or death from burns, fire, explosion, electrical shock, and carbon poisoning.

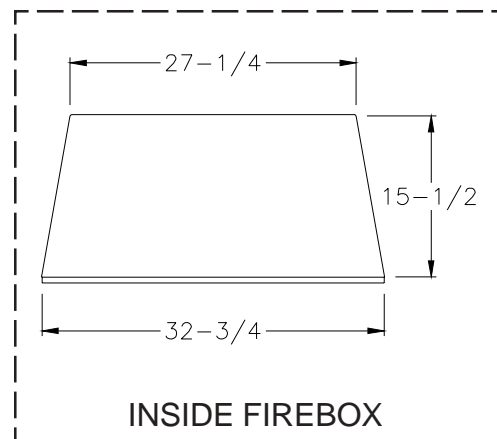
**WARNING:** Any change to this firebox or its controls can be dangerous.

1. This firebox shall not be installed in a bedroom or bathroom.
2. Never install the firebox
  - \* in a recreational vehicle
  - \* where curtains, furniture, clothing, or other flammable objects are less than 36 inches from the front, top, or side of the firebox
  - \* in high traffic areas
  - \* in windy or drafty areas
3. Do not use this firebox as a wood-burning fireplace. Use only "Vent-Free Gas Log Heaters".
4. Do not add extra logs or ornaments such as pine cones, vermiculite, or rock wool. Using these added items can cause sooting.
5. You must operate this firebox with the fireplace screen, hood, and brick liner in place. Make sure these parts are in place before running firebox.
6. Do not allow fans to blow directly into the firebox. Avoid any drafts that alter burner flame patterns. Ceiling fans can create drafts that alter burner flame patterns. Altered burner patterns can cause sooting.
7. Do not use a blower insert, heat exchanger insert or other accessory not approved for use with this heater.
8. Vent-free gas log heater installed in this firebox requires fresh air ventilation to run properly. See *Air for Combustion and Ventilation* instructions in Gas Log Heater owner's manual.
9. Do not run firebox
  - \* where flammable liquids or vapors are used or stored
  - \* under dusty conditions
10. Do not use this firebox to cook food or burn paper or other objects.
11. Never place any objects in the firebox or on logs.
12. Firebox front and screen becomes very hot when running firebox. Keep children and adults away from hot surfaces to avoid burns or clothing ignition. Firebox will remain hot for a time after shut-down. Allow surfaces to cool before touching.
13. Carefully supervise young children when they are in the room with firebox.
14. Turn firebox off and let cool before servicing. Only a qualified service person should service and repair firebox.
15. Operating vent-free gas log heaters in a firebox above elevations of 4,500 feet could cause pilot outage.

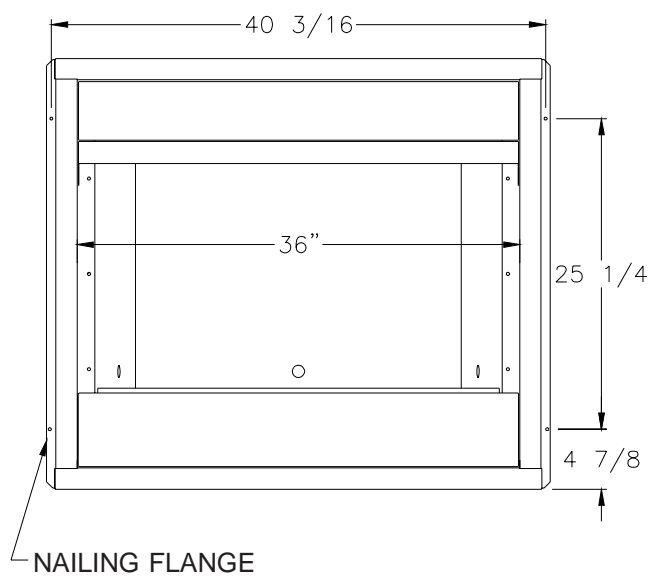
# VFZC36 SPECIFICATIONS



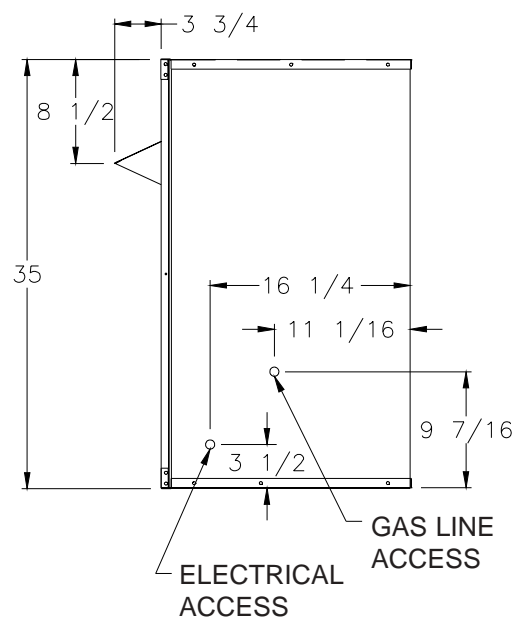
FIREBOX TOP VIEW



INSIDE FIREBOX

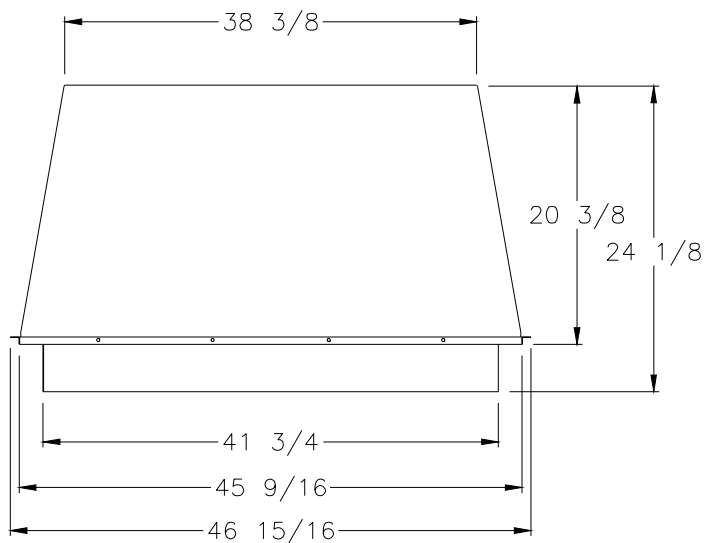


FIREBOX FRONT VIEW

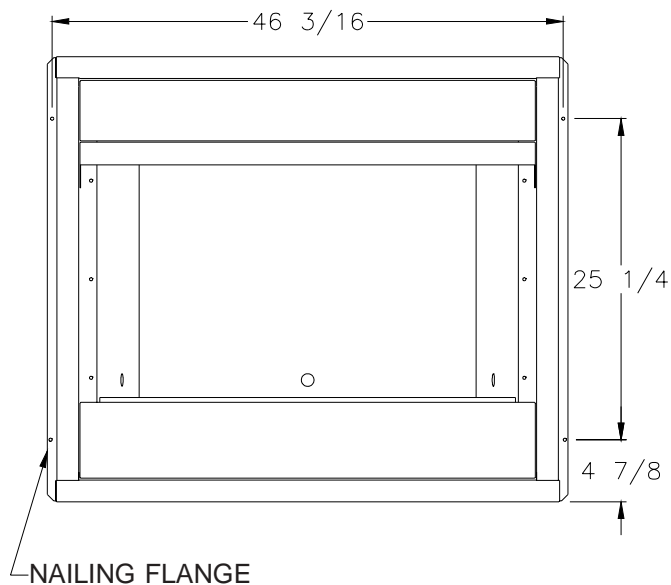
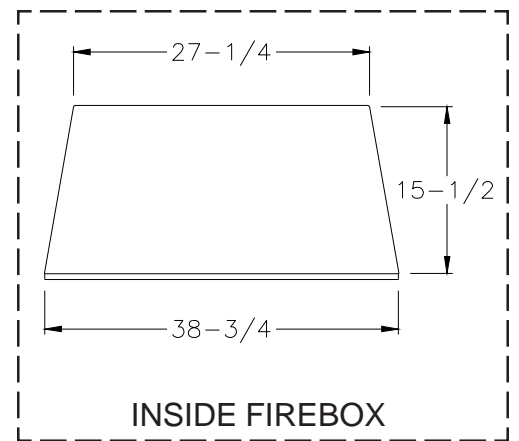


FIREBOX SIDE VIEW

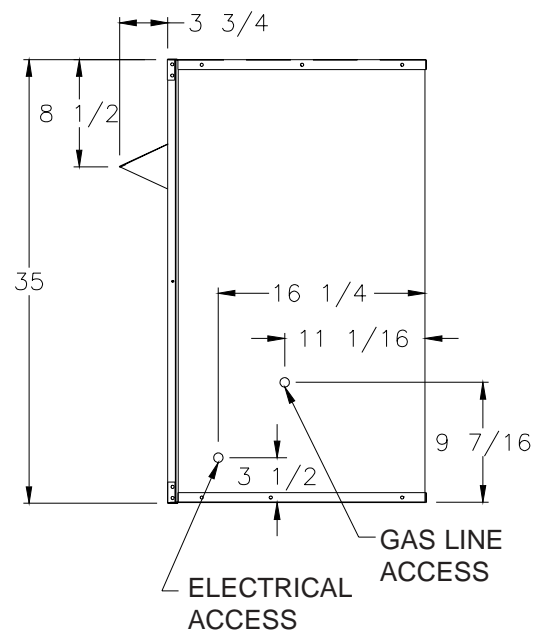
# VFZC42 SPECIFICATIONS



FIREBOX TOP VIEW



FIREBOX FRONT VIEW



FIREBOX SIDE VIEW

# LOCATING FIREBOX

## Planning

Plan where you will install the firebox. This will save time and money later when you install the firebox. Before installation, consider the following:

1. Where the firebox will be located. Allow for wall and ceiling clearances (see *Installation Clearances*, page 7).
2. If installing firebox directly on carpeting, tile or other combustible material, other than wood flooring, the firebox must be installed on a metal or wood panel extending the full width and depth of the enclosure.
3. Everything needed to complete installation.
4. These models CANNOT be installed in a bedroom or bathroom.
5. Proper air for combustion and ventilation (see below).

# AIR FOR COMBUSTION AND VENTILATION

**Provisions for adequate combustion and ventilation air must be made before installation of this unit. Please Refer to manual accompanying log set.**

# INSTALLATION

## NOTICE

**A qualified service person must install firebox. Follow all local codes.**

## WARNING

**Never install the firebox**

- \* in a bedroom or bathroom
- \* in a recreational vehicle
- \* where curtains, furniture, clothing, or other flammable objects are less than 36 inches from the front, top, or sides of the firebox
- \* in high traffic areas
- \* in windy or draft areas

## CAUTION

**Vent-Free Gas Log heaters installed in this firebox create warm air currents. These currents move heat to wall surfaces next to firebox. Installing firebox next to vinyl or cloth wall coverings or operating firebox where impurities in the air (such as tobacco smoke) exist, may discolor walls.**

**IMPORTANT:** Make sure the firebox is level. If firebox is not level, log set will not work properly.

## INSTALLATION *CONTINUED*

**IMPORTANT:** Vent-free gas log heaters add moisture to the air. Although this is beneficial, installing firebox in rooms without enough ventilation air may cause mildew to form from too much moisture. (See *Air for Combustion and Ventilation*, in your Vent-Free gas log heater's owners manual.)

### INSTALLATION CLEARANCES

#### WARNING

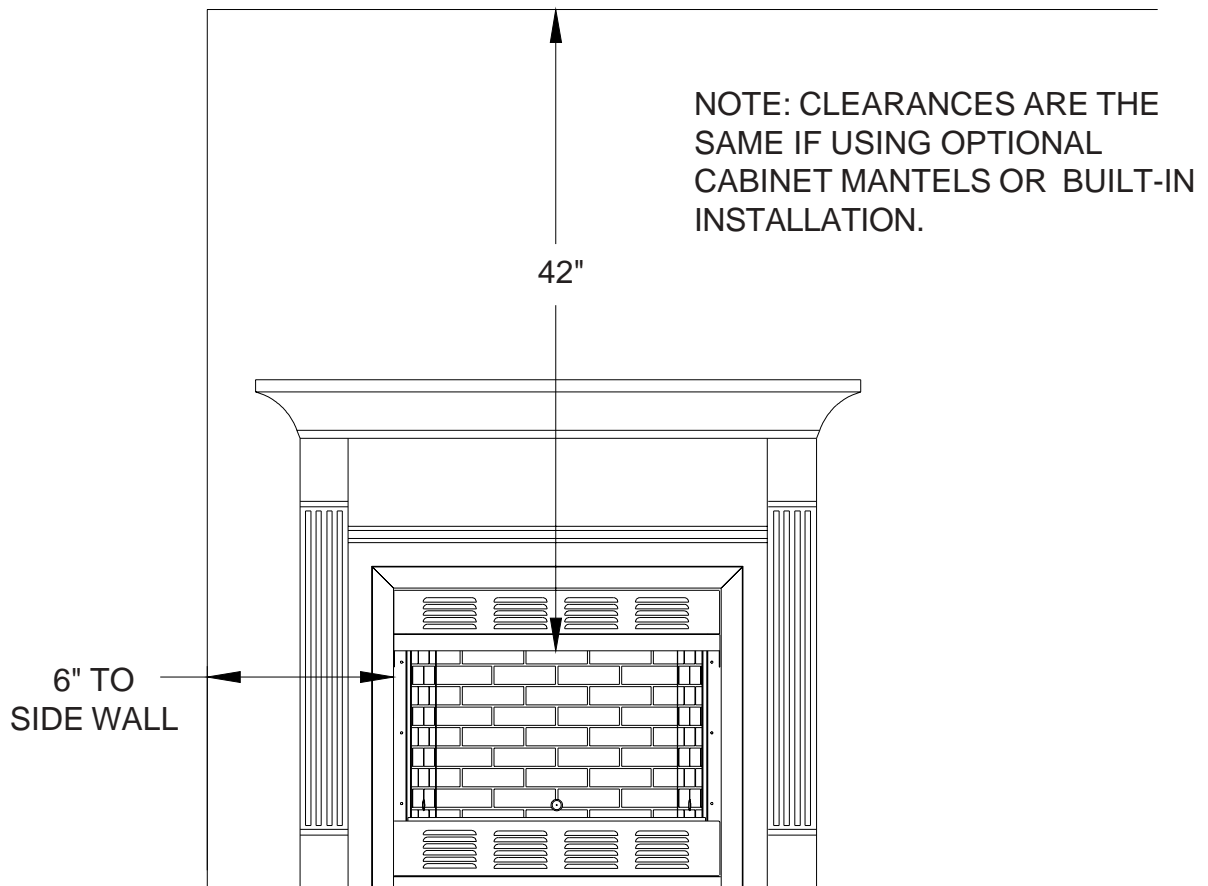
**Maintain the minimum clearances. If you can, provide greater clearances from floor, ceiling, and adjoining wall.**

Carefully follow the instructions below. This will ensure safe installation.

#### Minimum Wall and Ceiling Clearances (see Figure 1, below)

- A. Clearances from the side of the firebox opening to any combustible wall should not be less than 6 inches. (This applies to built-in installation or using an "optional" cabinet mantel kit.)
- B. Clearances from the top of the firebox opening to the ceiling should not be less than 42 inches.

#### Mantel Clearances for Conventional Installation

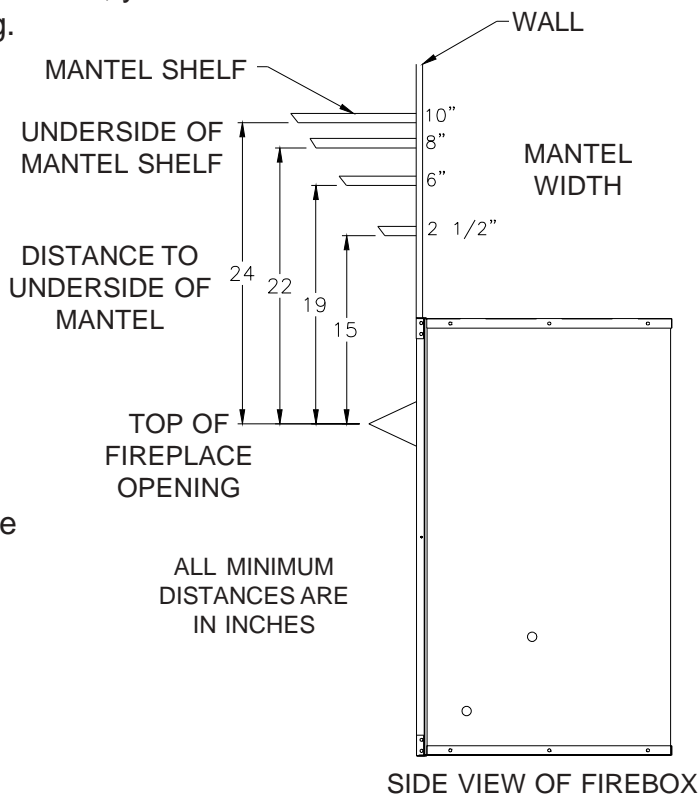


**Figure 1 - Minimum Clearance to Wall and Ceiling**

## Mantel Clearances for Built-in Installation

If placing custom mantel above built-in firebox, you must meet minimum clearance between mantel shelf and top of firebox opening.

**Figure 2 - Minimum Mantel Clearances for Built-in Installation**

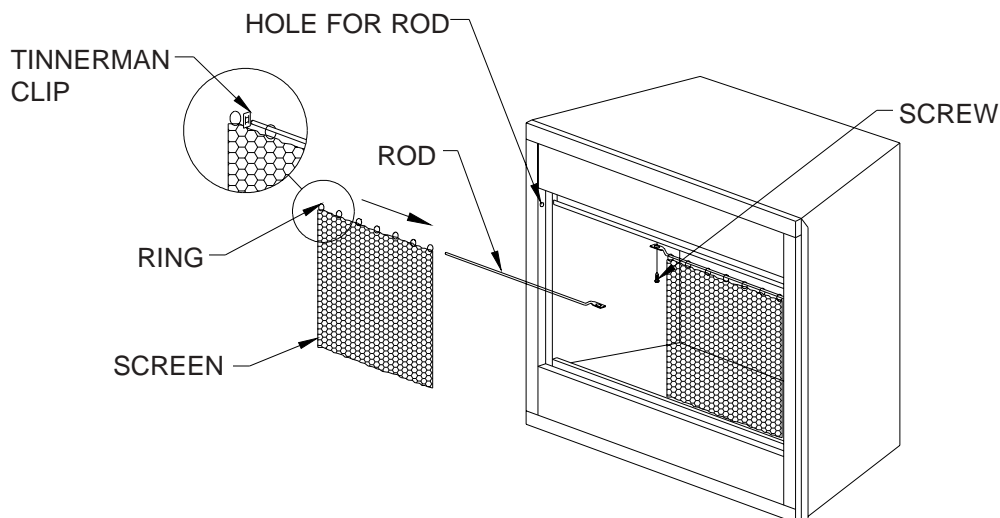


If your installation does not meet the above minimum clearances, you must:

- \* raise the mantel to an acceptable height, OR
- \* remove the mantel.

## Installing the Fireplace Screen.

1. Insert each rod through the rings located at the top of the screen. NOTE: Before placing the last ring over the rod, slide the tinnerman clip (included in the parts bag) onto the rod and then slide the last ring over the rod. (See Figure 3)
2. Insert the right screen and rod into the hole in the side trim and line up rod with the back hole in the firebox top and fasten with one of the 5/16" head screws included.
3. Now insert the left screen and rod as above. (Figure 3)



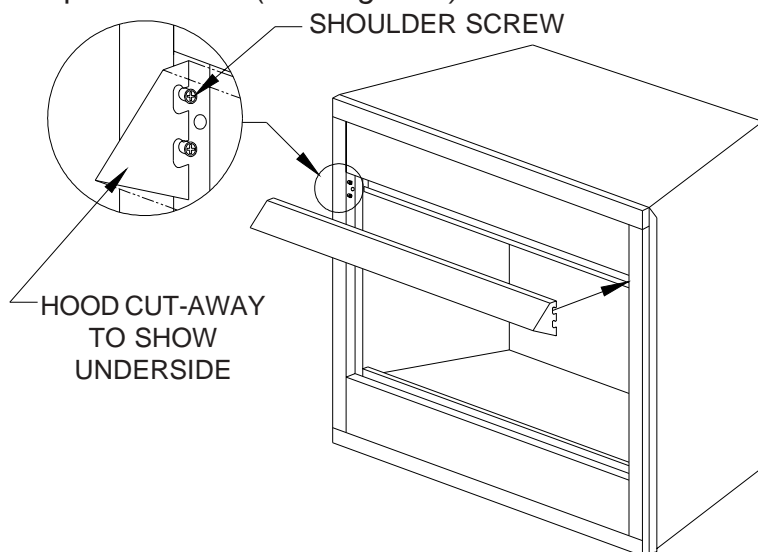
**Figure 3 - Installing Fireplace Screen**



## INSTALLATION *CONTINUED*

### Installing the Fireplace Hood.

1. Slide the Hood over the shoulder screws and gently press down until secure. **NOTE:** There are (2) shoulder screws on each side of the firebox opening directly below the top plate. These shoulder screws should line up with the notches on the sides of the Fireplace Hood. (See Figure 4)

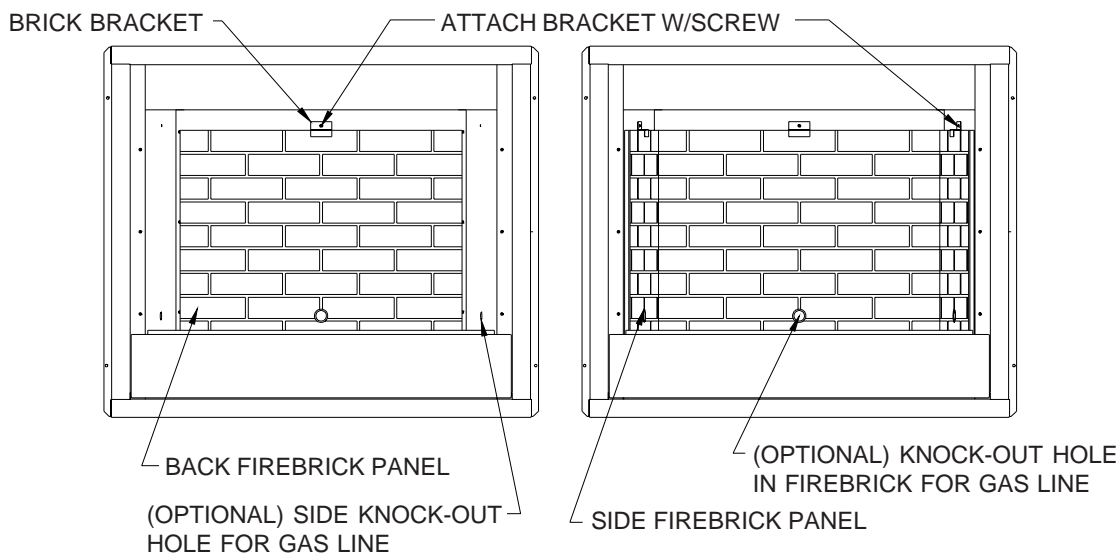


**IMPORTANT:**  
The Firebox Hood must not be replaced with a hood/canopy which may be provided with the decorative type unvented room heater.

**Figure 4 - Installing the Fireplace Hood.**

### Installing the Firebrick Panels into the firebox.

1. Before installing the firebrick panels you must first remove the brick brackets. A 5/16" nut driver will be required. (See Figure 5a & b, below for location)
2. Carefully remove the firebrick panels from their box.
3. Decide which side of the firebox you want the gas line to enter and knock out the appropriate holes in the cabinet, firebox, and the firebrick panel.
4. Place the back firebrick panel in the firebox, as shown in Figure 5a.
5. Place the side firebrick panels in the firebox, as shown in Figure 5b.
6. You can now replace the brick brackets using a 5/16" nut driver.



**Figure 5a**  
**Figure 5b**  
**Firebox shown with some parts missing for clarity.**

## INSTALLATION *CONTINUED*

### Installing the Optional VFZCB Blower Kit.

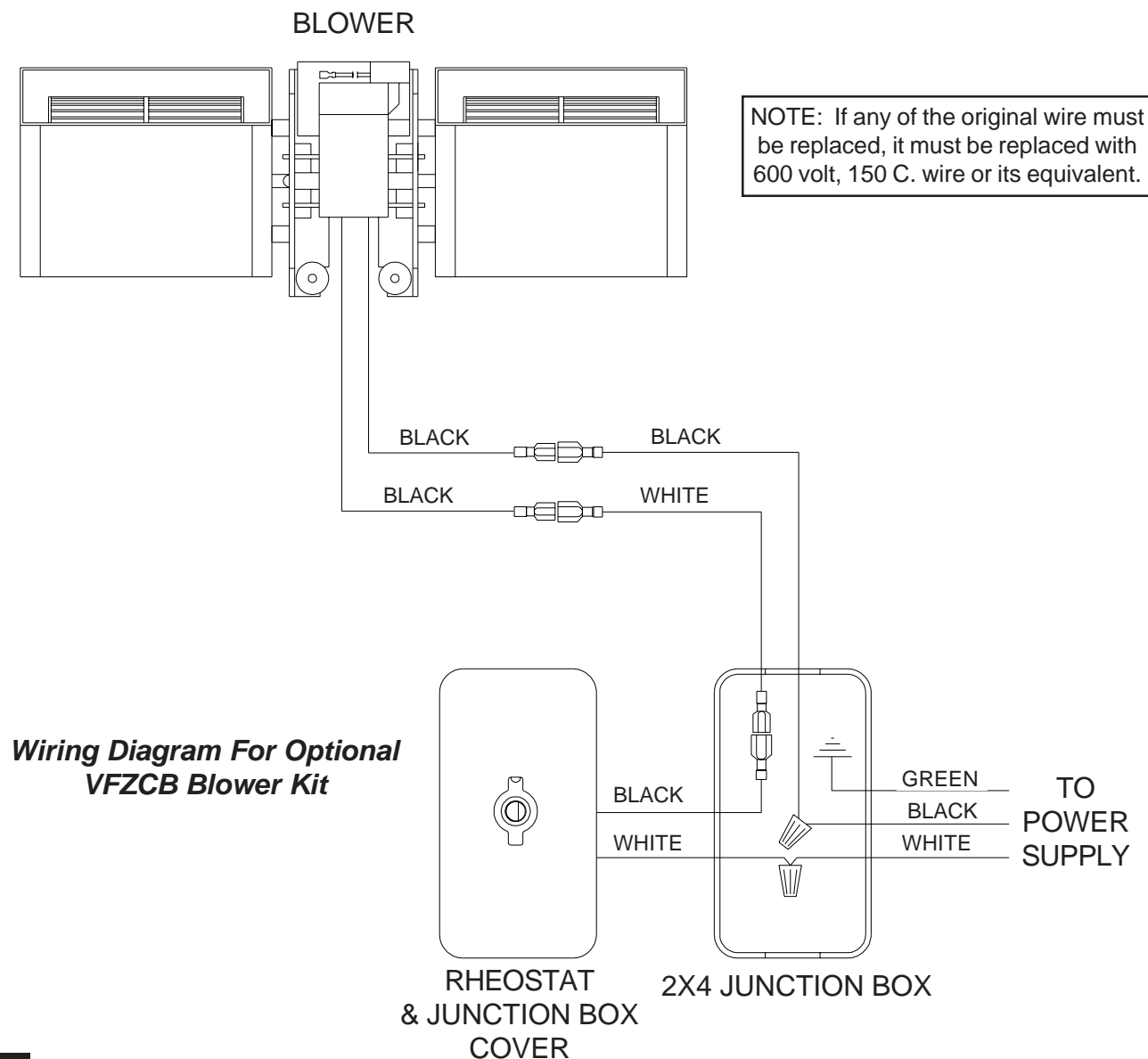
You may install the VFZCB Blower Kit in the VFZC36 and the VFZC42 Fireboxes. (**NOTE: When installing the Blower kit you must also use one of the optional Louvered Grill Kits\*.**)

Each Blower Kit includes the following:

- 1- 120 CFM Blower
- 1- Manual fan control switch
- 1- Parts bag
- 1- Installation Instruction sheet

\*The Louvered grill kits (see *Optional Accessories*), along with the Blower, will aid in the distribution and circulation of the heat throughout the heating area. **NOTE:** Install blower assembly per instruction sheet included in Blower Kit.

**IMPORTANT:** The blower, when installed, must be electrically grounded in accordance with local codes or, in the absence of local codes, with the National Electrical Code, ANSI/NFPA70.



### Firebox Installation Using Optional Mantel.

This firebox may be installed using the cabinet mantel with hearth base accessory against a wall in your home. You must use one of the Satin Black or Polished Brass Trim Kits available when installing your firebox with the optional mantel kit. (See *Accessories* on page 17 & 18).

**NOTE:** The Trim Kits provide a finished appearance covering rough and/or unfinished mantel edges.

**NOTE:** The instructions below show installation using the VFZC series cabinet mantels and hearth base accessories. The hearth base accessory shown is optional for this installation. You can install the firebox and mantel directly on the floor. The VFZC series face mantel accessories cannot be installed with the hearth base accessory. You must install the face mantels directly on the floor. (See *Optional Accessories*, page 17)

**NOTE:** If installing directly on carpeting, tile or other combustible material, other than wood flooring, the firebox must be installed on a metal or wood panel extending the full width and depth of the enclosure.

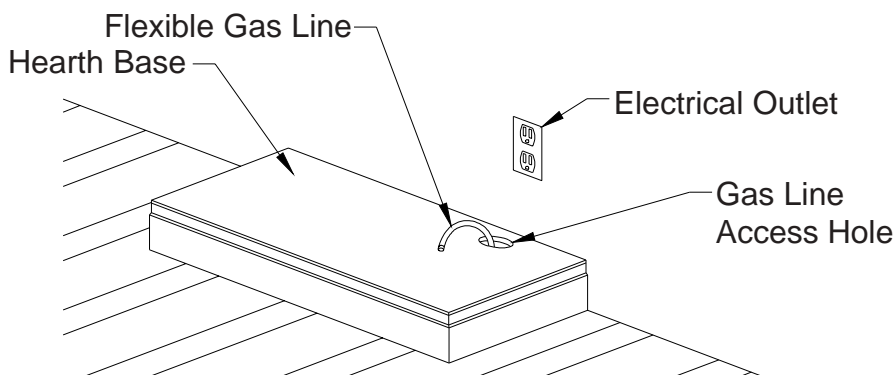
**NOTE:** If using the VFZC series face mantel accessory, a wall recess opening will be needed. See installation instructions for VFUN36FM/VFUN42FM Face Mantel accessory.

1. Assemble cabinet mantel, hearth base (optional), and trim accessories. Assembly instructions are included with each accessory.
2. If using an optional VFZCB blower, install a properly grounded, 120 volt three-prong electrical outlet at firebox location if an outlet is not there. If possible, locate outlet so cabinet mantel will cover it when installed (see Figure 6, below).
3. Install gas piping to firebox location. For this installation you will need an approved flexible gas line (if allowed by local codes) and a manual shutoff valve. The flexible gas line must be the last item installed on the gas piping. See Connecting to Gas Supply in your log set owner's manual.

### NOTICE

**A qualified service person must connect firebox to gas supply. Follow all local codes.**

4. Place (optional) hearth base accessory against wall at installation location. Cut an access hole in hearth top to run flexible gas line to firebox (see Figure 6). Make sure to locate access hole so cabinet mantel will cover it when installed. **NOTE:** you can secure base to floor using wood screws. Countersink screw heads and putty over.



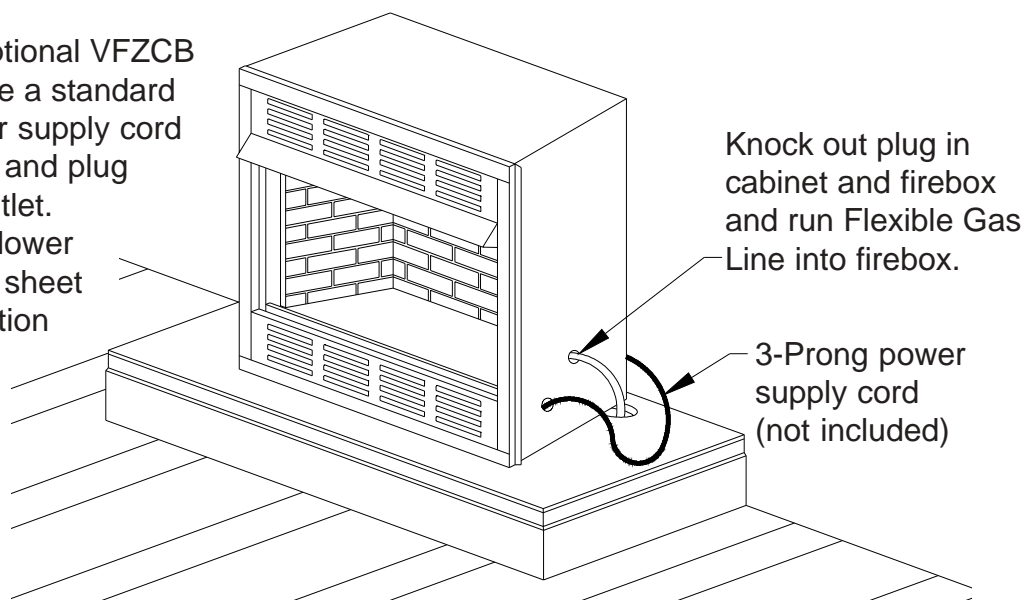
**Figure 6 - Placing (optional) Hearth Base against wall**

## INSTALLATION *CONTINUED*

5. Center the unit on the Hearth Base. Run the Gas Line into the firebox. You can access the firebox from the left, right, or rear of the unit by knocking out the plugs in the cabinet and inside the firebox. **NOTE:** You must also knock out the hole in the Firebrick Panel.

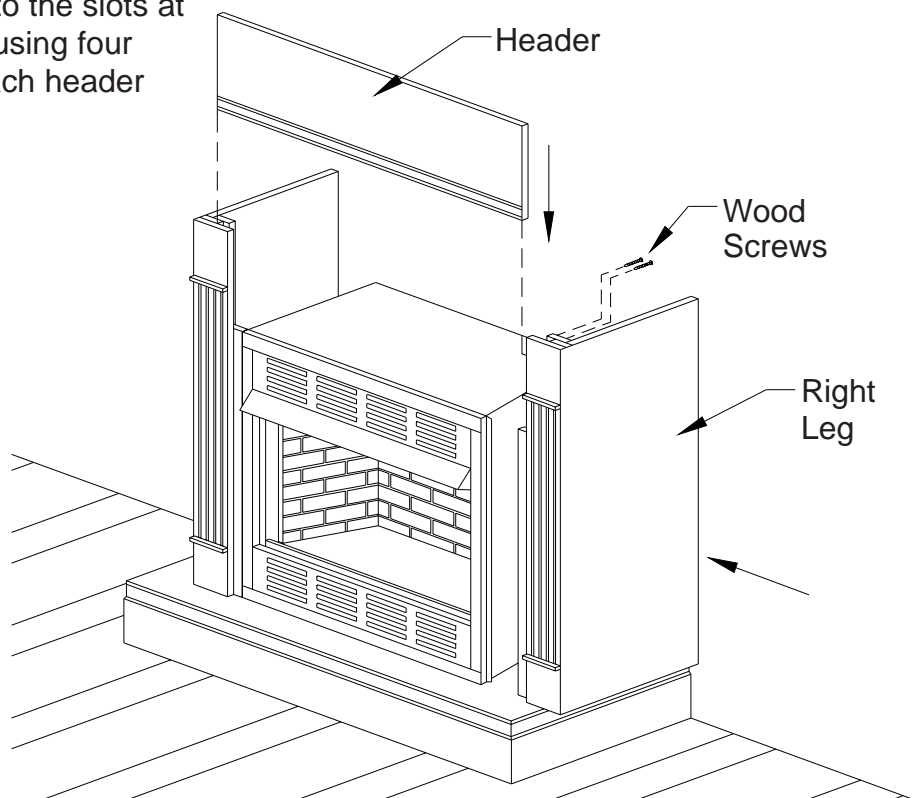
6. If installing Optional VFZCB Blower Kit, use a standard 3-prong power supply cord (not included) and plug blower into outlet.

**NOTE:** See Blower Kit Instruction sheet for full installation instructions.



**Figure 8 - Installing Firebox on Hearth Base**

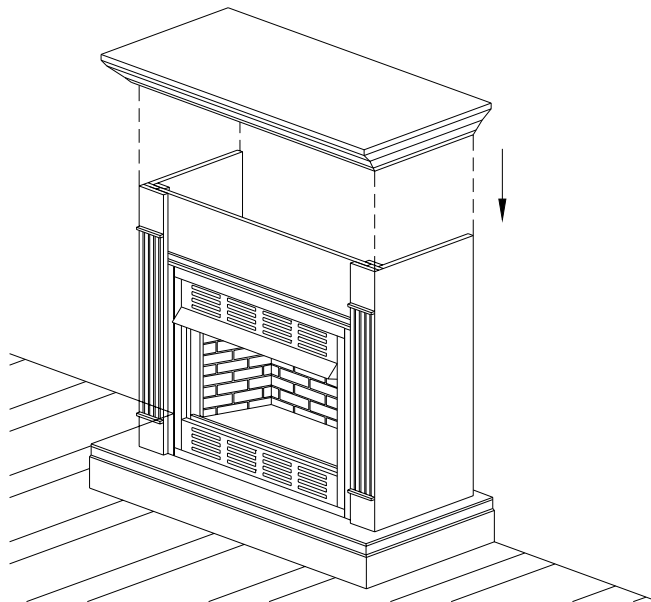
7. Place the Cabinet Mantel Legs on Hearth Base and slide each side firmly up against the unit (See Figure 9). **NOTE:** The Cabinet Mantel Legs and Hearth Base should be against the wall.
8. Lower the header into the slots at the top of each leg, using four 1-1/4" screws to attach header to the legs.



**Figure 9 - Installing Cabinet Mantel Legs & Header**

## INSTALLATION *CONTINUED*

- Lower Mantel top onto legs and header to complete installation of mantel.



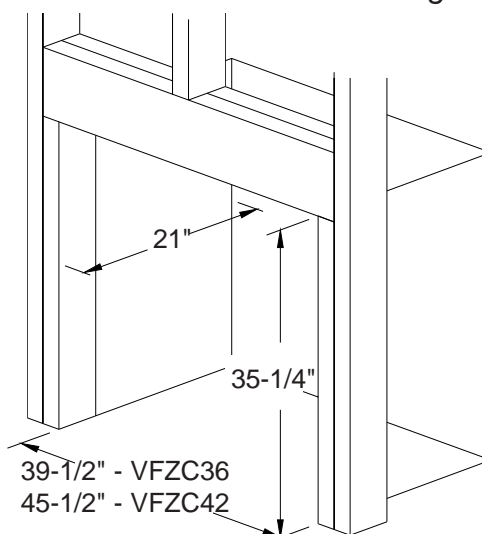
**Figure 10 - Installing Mantel Top**

### **Built-in Firebox Installation.**

Built-in installation of this firebox involves installing the firebox into a framed-in enclosure. This makes the front flush with the wall. If installing a mantel above the firebox, you must follow the clearances shown in Figure 2, page 8. Follow the instructions below to install the firebox in this manner.

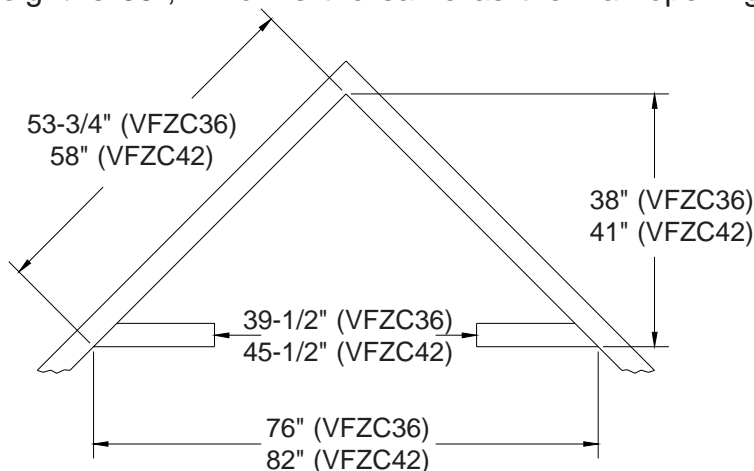
Model #	Height		Front Width		Depth	
	Actual	Framing	Actual	Framing	Actual	Framing
<b>VFZC36</b>	35"	35-1/4"	39-3/8"	39-1/2"	20-3/8"	21"
<b>VFZC42</b>	35"	35-1/4"	45-3/8"	45-1/2"	20-3/8"	21"

- Frame in rough opening. Use dimensions shown in *Figure 11* for rough opening.



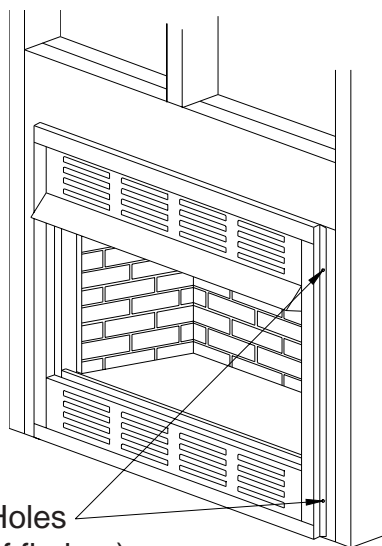
**Figure 11 - Rough Opening for Installing in Wall**

If installing in a corner, use the dimensions shown in *Figure 12* below for the rough opening. The height is 35", which is the same as the wall opening in *Figure 11*, page 13.



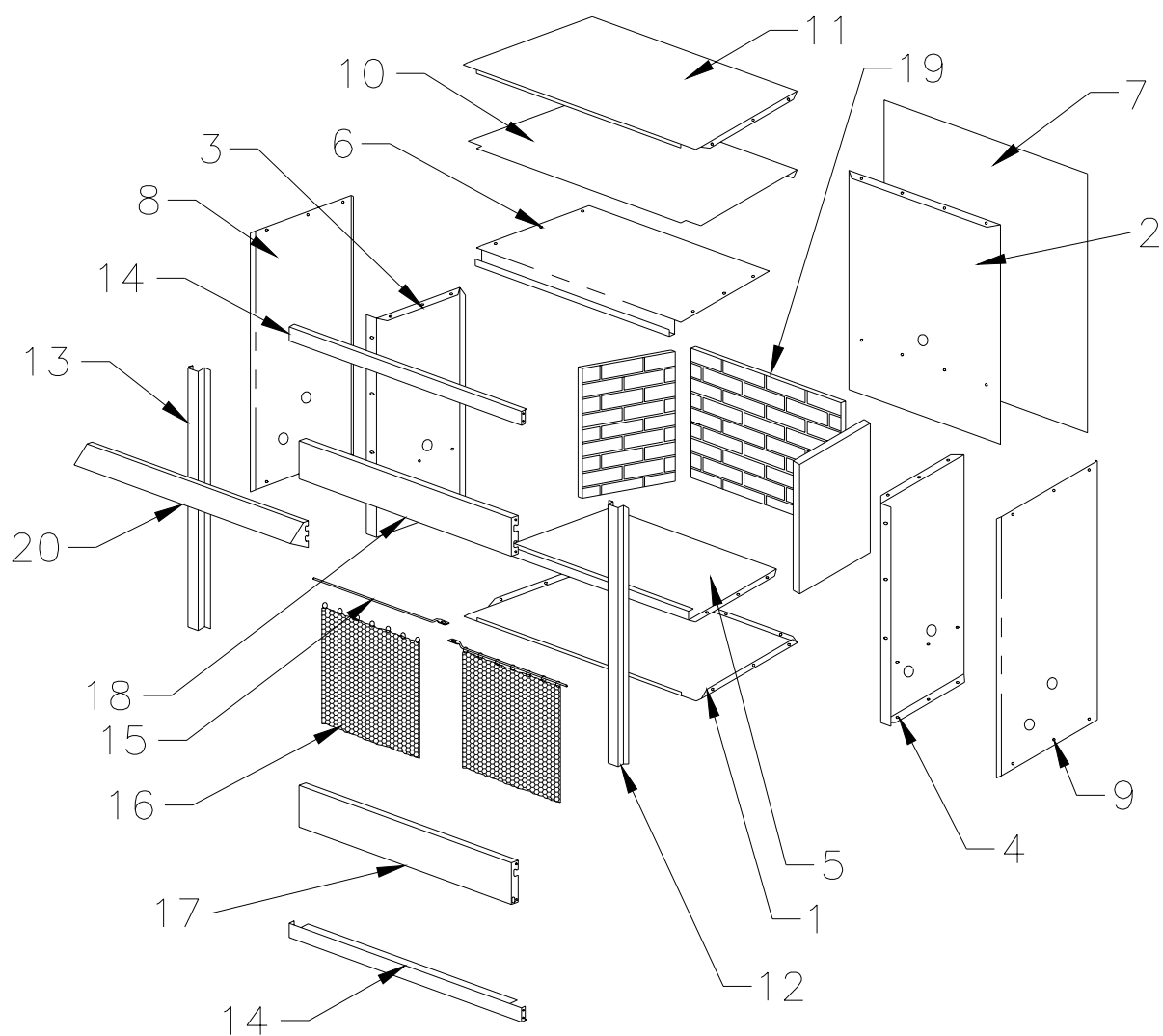
**Figure 12 - Rough Opening for Installing in Corner.**

2. Install gas piping to firebox location. NOTE: This unit give (3) options on where the gas line can be ran into the firebox. Knock outs are provided on the left and right side of the firebox and also the back of the firebox, for gas line connection. See *Connecting to Gas Supply* in your Log Set Owner's Manual.
3. Carefully set the firebox in front of rough opening with back of firebox inside wall opening.
4. If using the VFZCB (optional) Blower Kit, see installation instructions included with blower.
5. Attach flexible gas line to log set. See *Connecting to Gas Supply* in log set owner's manual.
6. Carefully insert firebox into rough opening.
7. Attach firebox to wall studs using nails or wood screws through holes in nailing flange (see *Figure 13*).
8. Check all gas connections for leaks. See *Checking Gas Connections* in log set owner's manual.
9. If using optional Trim Kit, install the trim after final finishing and/or painting of wall. See instructions included with Trim Kit for attaching trim. (See *Optional Accessories*, page 18, for the different kits available).



**Figure 13 - Attaching Firebox to Wall Studs**

# PARTS DIAGRAM Models VFZC36 & VFZC42



## PARTS LIST Models VFZC36 & VFZC42

KEY	DESCRIPTION	VFZC36		VFZC42	
		PART#	QTY.	PART#	QTY.
1	CABINET BOTTOM ASSEMBLY	69141	1	69142	1
2	FIREBOX BACK	24616	1	24635	1
3	FIREBOX LEFT SIDE	24617	1	24617	1
4	FIREBOX RIGHT SIDE	24618	1	24618	1
5	FIREBOX BOTTOM	24619	1	24638	1
6	FIREBOX TOP	24620	1	24639	1
7	CABINET BACK	24621	1	24640	1
8	CABINET LEFT SIDE	24622	1	24622	1
9	CABINET RIGHT SIDE	24623	1	24623	1
10	INNER TOP	24624	1	24644	1
*	INSULATION	24649	1	24672	1
11	CABINET TOP	24625	1	24636	1
12	LEFT SIDE TRIM	24626	1	24626	1
13	RIGHT SIDE TRIM	24627	1	24627	1
14	TOP/BOTTOM TRIM	24628	2	24637	2
15	CURTAIN ROD	24677	2	24678	2
16	FIREPLACE SCREEN	89897	2	89898	2
17	LOWER PLATE	24645	1	24647	1
18	TOP PLATE	24646	1	24648	1
*	SHOULDER SCREW	83477	12	83477	12
19	BRICK PANEL SET	89883	1	89887	1
-	BACK BRICK PANEL	89884	1	89893	1
-	SIDE BRICK PANEL	89885	2	89885	2
*	BRICK BRACKET	24650	3	24650	3
20	HOOD	24631	1	24643	1

\* = Not Shown



## OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES

You may purchase these firebox accessories from your local dealer. If they can not supply these accessories, call United States Stove Company's Sales Department at 1-423-837-2100 for information. You can also write to the address listed on the back page of this manual.

### CABINET MANTEL

Two versions are available:

Golden Oak Stained Mantel -

Model VFGO36M for use with VFZC36

Model VFGO42M for use with VFZC42

Unfinished Mantel -

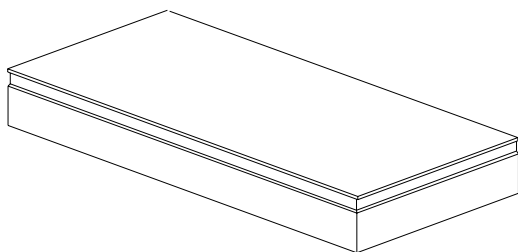
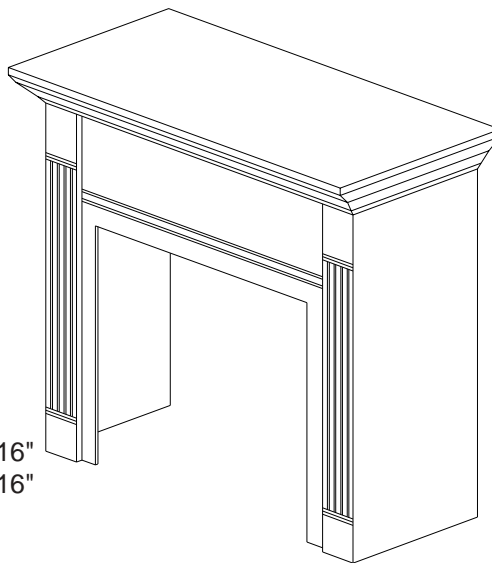
Model VFUF36M for use with VFZC36

Model VFUF42M for use with VFZC42

Dimensions (WxHxD):

Model VFGO36M/VFUF36M = 52-1/16" x 48" x 25-3/16"

Model VFGO42M/VFUF42M = 58-1/16" x 48" x 25-3/16"



### HEARTH BASE

Golden Oak Stained Hearth Base -

Model VFGO36B for use with VFGO36M

Model VFGO42B for use with VFGO42M

Unfinished Hearth Base -

Model VFUF36B for use with VFUF36M

Model VFUF42B for use with VFUF42M

Dimensions (WxHxD):

Model VFGO36B/VFUF36B = 58-3/4" x 5" x 25-3/16"

Model VFGO42B/VFUF42B = 64-3/4" x 5" x 25-3/16"

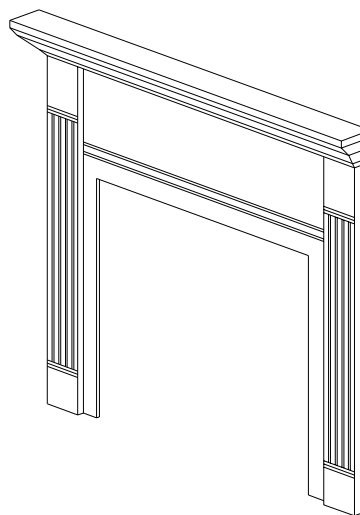
### FACE MANTEL

(The Face Mantel is only available unfinished)

Model VFUN36FM for use with VFZC36

Model VFUN42FM for use with VFZC42

*Designed for use with recessed applications.*



*Drawings are for illustration purposes only. Actual product may vary in appearance.*

## OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES

### ALUMINUM TRIM KITS

Model VFZC36:

VF36PB - Polished Brass Trim Kit

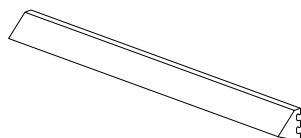
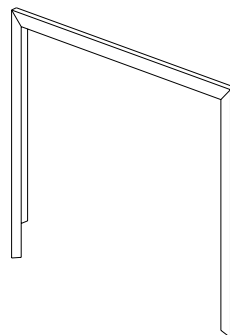
VF36SB - Satin Black Trim Kit

Model VFZC42:

VF42PB - Polished Brass Trim Kit

VF42SB - Satin Black Trim Kit

*The Trim Kits must be used when installing firebox with Cabinet Mantel or Face Mantel.*



### BRASS HOOD

Model VF36BH for use with VFZC36 Firebox.

Model VF42BH for use with VFZC42 Firebox.

### LOUVERED GRILL KITS

Model VFZC36:

VF36LK - Black Louvered Grills

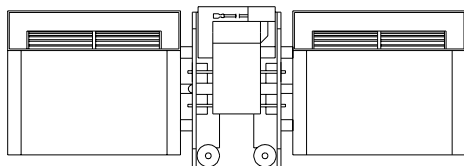
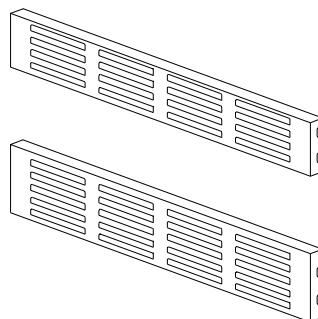
VF36BL - Brass Louvered Grills

Model VFZC42:

VF42LK - Black Louvered Grills

VF42BL - Brass Louvered Grills

*The Louvered grills are required when using the optional VFZCB blower kit. The Brass Louvered Grills add an extra touch of class to the firebox.*



### BLOWER ACCESSORY

Model VFZCB - Blower Kit

*The variable blower allows you to select the desired speed. The blower circulates heated air from the fireplace into the room.  
(Blower not to scale for illustration purposes)*

*Drawings are for illustration purposes only. Actual product may vary in appearance.*

# HOW TO ORDER REPAIR PARTS

This Manual will help you obtain efficient, dependable service from your Vent-Free Zero-Clearance Firebox, and enable you to order repair parts.

Keep this manual in a safe place for future reference.

When writing, always give the full model number which is on the nameplate attached to the firebox.

When ordering repair parts or options, always give the following information as shown in this list:

1. The PART NUMBER
2. The PART DESCRIPTION
3. The MODEL NUMBER: ☐ VFZC36 ☐ VFZC42
4. The SERIAL NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

Before installing this firebox, fill in the serial number in the space provided for your records.

## UNITED STATES STOVE COMPANY

227 INDUSTRIAL PARK ROAD  
P.O.BOX 151  
SOUTH PITTSBURGH, TN 37380  
(423) 837-2100



Keeping America Warm Since 1869

VFZC36/VFZC42  
Owner's Manual

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